

Other things for Cordovans to consider:

55-gallon drums are not suitable oil tanks.

They are not designed for long-term use and are prone to rust and punctures. Fuel tanks are available for sale at Shoreside Petroleum.

Warning about Wood Stands:

Stands made from wood can collect water under the oil tank which speeds up deterioration of fuel tanks. Using metal stands or placing lengths of poly-rope or tarpaper under a fuel tank can keep water away from tanks and protect tanks from corrosion.

Furthermore, treated wood contains preservatives that can corrode copper piping. Any fuel line passing through pressure treated wood should be encased in non-metal materials.

Keep your oil tank freshly painted to extend its life span.

Cordova is located near active fault lines and **earthquakes** are a possibility. **Floodwaters** can also endanger home heating tanks. Resources with ideas for securing fuel tanks during these kinds of natural disasters can be found at:

<http://tinyurl.com/FuelTank-Quake1>

<http://tinyurl.com/FuelTank-Quake2>

http://www.aeic.alaska.edu/html_docs/nextbigeq.html



Before the snow flies, take time to protect your tank and lines from overhead damage from ice, snow, or trees!

PREVENTION IS KEY

Homeowners are legally liable for costs associated with cleaning up contaminated soils and water that result from a home fuel tank spill. *With proper care and maintenance, these costs can be avoided.* In the case of a spill, the faster you react to a spill, the cheaper the clean-up will be.

To report a spill locally, contact Cordova Police Dispatch Center at 424-6100. If there is an emergency dial 911.

State law requires all oil and hazardous substance releases be reported to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

Cordova residents should contact the Prince William Sound Unit in Valdez at (907)835-4698. Evening & Weekends: 1-800-478-9300

This brochure is produced by The Native Village of Eyak, Copper River Watershed Project, City of Cordova, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Cordova Clean Harbor Project, and Shoreside Petroleum.



PREVENT OIL SPILLS AND SAVE MONEY TOO!



Taking time to learn more about maintenance and care of your home fuel tank can save you money. Did you know fuel spills can...

- ✓ contaminate local drinking water sources like Eyak Lake;
- ✓ reduce the value of your property;
- ✓ cause odor and health problems in your and/or your neighbors' homes;
- ✓ end up in Odiak Pond, Orca Inlet or Eyak Lake, home to salmon, the backbone of our economy.



Fuel spills can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Save money and inspect your fuel tank today!

Prevent Oil Spills & Save Money Too!

Use the following list to inspect your fuel tank. Native Village of Eyak (NVE) is available to assist with inspections. Contact 424-7738 for more information.

Contact NVE or DEC for more information on how to address the questions you answered “no” to!

1) Does the fill pipe have a cover to keep water out and is the area around it free of stains?
 NO **YES**

2) Is the fuel system protected from overhead damage, such as falling ice, snow or trees?
 NO **YES**

10) Is the fuel tank less than 15 years old? If not, you may want to consider replacing it.
 NO **YES**

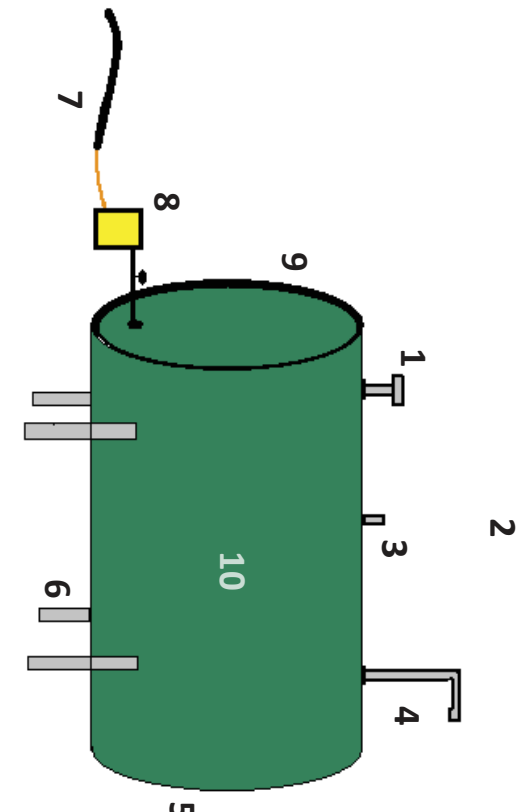
NO **YES**

3) If you have a fuel gauge and overflow alarm do they work?
 NO **YES**

9) Is the tank, especially the ends, free of stains or wet spots?
 NO **YES**

4) Is the vent pipe clear of debris and insects?
 NO **YES**

8) Is the fuel filter protected from damage and free of excess water?
 NO **YES**



5) Is the tank free of dents and rust? Is it painted to protect it?
 NO **YES**

7) Are the fuel lines protected (lines in the ground or concrete are inside liquid-tight conduit) from damage?
 NO **YES**

6) Are the tank legs or stand the right size, in good condition and on a stable foundation? The tank should not be touching the ground.
 NO **YES**

Tips for Underground Tanks!:



- ◆ **Check the tank for water!** Excessive amounts of water can indicate the tank is leaking and can corrode the tank from the inside. Ask your fuel provider to test your tank once a year.

**Alaska Department of
Environmental Conservation**
Division of Spill Prevention and
Response

- ◆ **Check for dead vegetation, sheen and odors in low areas!** These are all signs of a fuel spill.

ADEC Area Response Team:
Valdez: (907)835-4698

- ◆ **How old is your tank?** Most underground tanks fail eventually, some in as little as five years. If you don't know how old your tank is, maybe it's time to replace it.

Evening & Weekends: 1-800-478-9300

- ◆ **Are electric lines buried near the fuel tank or fuel lines?** Electrolysis can cause premature failure of the tank or fuel lines.

For more information on
heating oil systems visit:
dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr